



CITY OF SANTA BARBARA

COUNCIL AGENDA REPORT

AGENDA DATE: January 15, 2008

TO: Mayor and Councilmembers

FROM: Housing and Redevelopment, Community Development Department

SUBJECT: Assignment Of Contract With The Santa Barbara Rape Crisis Center
To The Santa Barbara County Victim Witness Program

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council authorize the assignment of Santa Barbara Rape Crisis Center Human Services Contract No. 22,384 in the remaining amount of \$9,985 for the period January 1 – June 30, 2008, to the Santa Barbara County Victim Witness Program for operation of the Sexual Assault Response Team (SART) Program.

DISCUSSION:

As of January 1, 2008, Santa Barbara Rape Crisis Center will be transferring supervision and oversight of the Sexual Assault Response Team (SART) Program to the Santa Barbara County Victim Witness Program. The Santa Barbara County Victim Witness Program falls under the direction of the Santa Barbara County District Attorney's Office.

SART is a countywide coalition of 21 public and private agencies which has been in existence since 1986. SART serves child, adolescent and adult survivors of sexual assault/abuse by providing forensic interviews, medical-legal exams, medical treatment and follow-up referrals and emotional support to survivors and their loved ones. The City of Santa Barbara has supported this program through its Human Services funds since Fiscal Year 2002, first under the umbrella of Child Abuse Listening Mediation (CALM) and currently under the umbrella of Santa Barbara Rape Crisis Center. The City portion is approximately 15% of the program's total operating budget.

As the SART program has grown and become more complex, the coalition members have sought ways to continue to provide high quality and efficient services to survivors of sexual violence who report the crime to law enforcement or Santa Barbara County Child Welfare

REVIEWED BY: _____ Finance _____ Attorney _____ Name of Additional Department(s) That Need to Review CAR

Agenda Item No. _____

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Services. The decision to move the oversight of the program to the County Victim Witness Program was made with great thought and in consultation with all of the 21 coalition partners, who fully support it. The SART coalition partners have determined that the infrastructure provided by a county department would better serve the needs of the program. District Attorney, Christie Stanley has accepted this transfer of responsibility. Megan Rheinschild, Santa Barbara County Victim Witness Program Coordinator, will be directly responsible for the supervision of the program.

The Human Services contract allows for assignment with City approval. We are recommending that City Council authorize the assignment of Santa Barbara Rape Crisis Center's Human Services Contract #22,384 and the remaining \$9,985 to Santa Barbara County's Victim Witness Program. The contract is for the operation of the Sexual Assault Response Program through June 30, 2008.

ATTACHMENT: Letter from Santa Barbara Rape Crisis Center

PREPARED BY: Steven Faulstich, Acting Housing and Redevelopment Manager/SLG

SUBMITTED BY: Dave Gustafson, Acting Community Development Director

APPROVED BY: City Administrator's Office



**Santa Barbara
Rape Crisis Center**
**Centro Contra
la Violacion Sexual**

Programs & Services

*24-hour Hotline
Crisis Intervention
Medical & Legal Advocacy
Accompaniment
Counseling
Self-Defense Classes
Prevention Education
Training & Consultation*

November 26, 2007

Sue Gray
City of Santa Barbara
PO Box 1990
Santa Barbara, CA 93102-1990

Dear Ms. Gray,

Thank you and the City of Santa Barbara Human Services Committee for your support of Santa Barbara Rape Crisis Center (SBRCC) and the Sexual Assault Response Team (SART).

I am writing to inform you that as of January 1, 2008, Santa Barbara Rape Crisis Center will be transferring supervision and oversight of the SART Coordinator position to the Santa Barbara County Victim Witness Program. This decision has been made with great thought and in consultation with all of the 21 coalition partners, who fully support it. The Santa Barbara County Victim Witness Program falls under the direction of the Santa Barbara County District Attorney's Office and District Attorney, Christie Stanley has accepted this transfer of responsibility. Megan Rheinschild, Santa Barbara County Victim Witness Program Coordinator, will be directly responsible for the supervision of the program.

As the SART program has grown and become more complex in our community, the coalition members have sought ways to continue to provide high quality and efficient services to survivors of sexual violence who report the crime to law enforcement or Santa Barbara County Child Welfare Services. We have determined that the infrastructure provided by a county department would better serve the needs of the program at this time. SART partners believe that moving the oversight of the Coordinator and program will be in the best interest of child, adolescent and adult survivors of sexual assault and would like to emphasize that the program's goals will continue as they have been since SART's inception.

The decision to transfer SART's oversight from SBRCC to Santa Barbara County Victim Witness will affect contract #22,384 that SBRCC has effected with the City of Santa Barbara for FY 2007-2008 Community Development and Human Services funding. Please let me know what steps we need to take to transfer the contract and related responsibilities to Santa Barbara County Victim Witness.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any further questions. Again, thank you for your continued support and for sharing our vision of a community free from sexual violence.

Sincerely,

Elsa Granados
Executive Director

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24-Hour Hotline
(805) 564-3696

Cc: Christie Stanley, District Attorney
Megan Rheinschild, SB County Victim Witness Program Coordinator
Sylvia Hendlin, Santa Barbara Rape Crisis Center Board President



Your generosity will live on when you remember Santa Barbara Rape Crisis Center in your will.

